

NFS LAKERS LEDGER

Nestor Falls School O'fishal News

November 2023

From the Office

November is a month of transitions and change. The clocks have moved back, fall has surrendered to winter, and we are shifting to snow-based activities such as mini-sticks, snowshoeing, ski-ing and sliding. Please ensure your child is dressed to enjoy the great outdoors!

It is also the month that we celebrate Canadian authors with [I Read Canadian Day](#) on November 8. This is a national day to build awareness and interest in the breadth and diversity of Canadian literature. Since November 8 is also Indigenous Veterans' Day we will read a story about Tom Longboat by Canadian author Elizabeth MacLeod. Challenge your family to find Canadian authors to read this month. Check out past Forest of Reading nominees for some fabulous options!

A Remembrance Day service will be held at NFS promptly at 10:00 AM on November the 10. Families are welcome to join us.

There is a lot going on in November - Remembrance Day, Progress Reports/Portfolio Interviews and Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week (just to name a few). Stay tuned for all our news and events with Facebook and SeeSaw. And, as always, please reach out if you have any questions or concerns

Ms. Tolen

Progress Report Card - Grades 1 to 8 (November 14)

The Progress Report is just as the title suggests, a report on the progress of your child since the start of the school year. It will not have grades but it will comment on how well your child has progressed in curriculum areas as well as Learning Skills (responsibility, organization, independent work, collaboration, initiative and self-regulation).

Communication of Learning - Kindergarten (November 14)

The Initial Observations report is designed to identify and describe a child's learning during the first part of the school year. It provides parents with information about their child's growth in learning, and next steps in learning in relation to the overall expectations in The Kindergarten Program.

SAVE the DATE - Parent Teacher Interviews

In-person interviews will be held on Wednesday, November 15 from 3:30 to 6:30 PM. Please call or message the school to request a time. This year we are trying something different with older students - a student lead portfolio interview. This is a special time for students to share work with their families. If you are unable to meet with your child's teacher during these designated times, please contact the teacher to schedule a different time.

KUDOS Corner

It takes a village to raise a child! NFS would like to thank...

- Cloverleaf Grocery for supporting our Halloween festivities!
- Percy for leading our Bus Safety presentations
- Robin and Mike for the Fire Safety presentations
- Onigaming First Nation for hosting an amazing Fall Harvest.
- NFS Cross Country coach and Sign Language Club teacher



School Council News

NFS Council 2023/24

Chair: Robin Holden

Secretary: Kiley Shebageget

Teaching Rep: Nissa Turner

Non-Teaching Rep: TBA

Community Rep: Holly Chant

Principal: Kerri Tolen

Council Members:

- Diana Kurkoski

The Council met on October 4. We have decided on one fundraiser this year to support student activities, 50/50 at the Nestor Falls Winter Carnival.

The next meeting is on November 20 at 3:30 PM, NFS. Keep up to date with what the Council is doing by attending meetings or checking out the school webpage.

Bullying Awareness & Prevention Week

The week of November 19 to 25 is Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week in Ontario. As a school, we will help students understand the difference between conflict and bullying, and get them to realize that while conflict is normal, bullying is not. We will watch Andy and the Odd Socks perform their new anti-bullying song, Make a Noise about Bullying, as well as participate in classroom read alouds, lessons, and challenges.

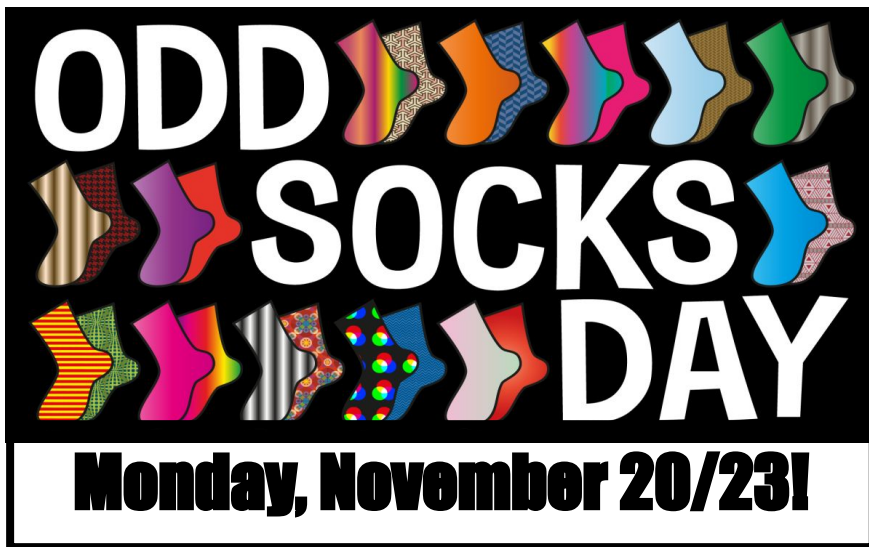
Check out the updated school bullying prevention and intervention plan coming soon to our school website.

Odd Sock Day

Odd Sock Day is a day to celebrate diversity in a fun way. On **November 20** we are challenging all staff and students to wear odd socks. We borrowed this idea from the United Kingdom's Bullying Alliance. Bullying is a world-wide problem with a very easy solution - KINDNESS. Bullies usually find something different or odd about a person to pick on but **odd is awesome!**

So wear odd socks on November 20! It's a fun way to encourage people to express and celebrate individuality! The Odd Sock challenge is for classrooms to come up with a creative picture of all their odd socks! You can also try this at home and send us your pics!

For more information check out the [Anti-Bullying Alliance!](#)



<p>TEASING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Everyone is having fun · No one is getting hurt · Everyone participating 	<p>CONFLICT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · No one is having fun · A possible solution exists · Equal balance of power
<p>MEAN MOMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Purposely hurting someone · Reaction to strong feeling or emotion, happens once 	<p>BULLYING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Purposely hurting someone · Repetitive (over/over) · Imbalance of power

**Recognition of Excellence
A Sign of the Times...**

Nestor Falls School Sign Language Club is being recognized at the RRDSB meeting on Tuesday night!

This year, Nestor Falls School has started its own Sign Language Club under the supervision of Ms. Armstrong. Students are eager to learn this new language and communicate with peers and people in the community who are deaf or hearing impaired. In the Primary class, students use sign language everyday to sign O'Canada. They also use KSW (key sign words) to ask to use the washroom, to go for a break, and to remind friends to clean up. All students, K-8, are welcome to join the Sign Language Club which meets once a week. So far students have been learning how to introduce themselves, the alphabet, and basic everyday signs.

Classrooms are made up of many different learners with varying abilities and disabilities. Teachers play an important role in providing what students need to be successful. Teaching KSW is now accepted as common in schools, and regarded as an example of good, classroom practice in countries around the world. For those students who are hearing impaired, everyday life can be isolating. Signing is more than a system for communication, it provides a sense of belonging, connection and shared experiences.

The NFS Sign Language Club is getting prepared for Remembrance Day. They will be opening the school service by signing O'Canada. This group would also like to collaborate with other signing clubs in the future and participate in community events to build awareness and promote interest.

Congratulations to the Nestor Falls Sign Language Club for their work in creating a safe, inclusive, and welcoming space for all students to thrive in!

